

JAN 21 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Annual Operational Programs for PRC Review

REFERENCES: (a) Memorandum dated 20 November 1953 on the above subject addressed to the Recording Secretary, PRC, by the Chief of Operations, DD/P; and
(b) Memorandum dated 17 December 1953 on above subject addressed to Recording Secretary, PRC, by the Chief of Operations, DD/P.

1. It is noted from reference (a) that it is planned to submit annual operational programs to the Project Review Committee during a five-week period beginning the last Wednesday in April and at the rate of two per week. Apart from the referenced (a) memorandum, it has been learned that it is the understanding within the DD/P area that the Project Review Committee will act on programs at the rate of two per week.

2. It is the intention of the Project Review Committee to consider programs at the maximum rate of one per week which is considered the minimum time needed to permit adequate study. Thus, the planned scheduling would confront the Committee with a very tight and inelastic time limitation as a total of only nine weeks would be at its disposal prior to 30 June. Consequently, the annual programs will be submitted to the Project Review Committee beginning not later than the second Wednesday in April and they will be so spaced as always to ensure that a program will be at hand for Committee consideration at a one per week rate - bearing in mind that programs must be submitted at least by the Wednesday prior to that on which it is given formal Committee consideration.

3. The recommendations of the referenced (a) memorandum regarding the content of programs are satisfactory as, when properly implemented, they will provide the Project Review Committee with the information it needs. As a minor comment, the wording of Paragraph 3d. appears unnecessarily to restrict the action contemplated, i. e., "a single descriptive sentence" may not be adequate to explain discontinued projects and those to be discontinued. Reasons for such action might well have a bearing on substitute or allied projects.

4. The assumption and statement of understanding expressed in Paragraph 4 of reference (a) are not clear. Apart from the memorandum it has been determined that it is the understanding in the DD/P area that a new project for \$25,000 or more which, at the time of its inclusion in the program, could not be presented in the detail required by the Project Outline stipulated in Notice No. [REDACTED] of 29 July 1953 never would come before the Project Review Committee. This understanding is at variance with the responsibility of the Committee which, as its name implies, has the function of reviewing projects. While the "package approval" concept has been adopted as a practical method of handling the complicated submissions represented by the annual programs, the Committee is not relieved of its responsibility to study and make appropriate recommendations to the Director regarding all projects involving amounts of \$25,000 or more. Consequently, full Project Outline forms of all such new projects will be submitted to the Committee as soon as this is feasible.

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C. P. GABELL
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Deputy Director